

VZCZCXR09933  
OO RUEHFK RUEHKSO RUEHNH  
DE RUEHKO #6909 3420840  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
O 080840Z DEC 06

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8967  
INFO RUEHBJ/AMEMBASSY BEIJING PRIORITY 5127  
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY 1407  
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY 1226  
RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA PRIORITY 9112  
RUEHNH/AMCONSUL NAHA PRIORITY 1595  
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE PRIORITY 2543  
RUEHKSO/AMCONSUL SAPPORO PRIORITY 0145  
RUEHSH/AMCONSUL SHENYANG PRIORITY 0421  
RHHMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY  
RHMFISS/COMUSJAPAN YOKOTA AB JA PRIORITY  
RUAGAAA/COMUSKOREA SEOUL KOR PRIORITY  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 2707  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHDC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 006909

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/08/2016  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [JA](#) [KN](#)  
SUBJECT: FORMER LDP OFFICIALS ADMITS LIE ABOUT KOIZUMI DPRK  
VISIT

Classified By: Ambassador J.Thomas Schieffer. Reasons 1.4 (B) (D)

¶1. (U) The December 8 edition of Tokyo Shimbun reported that former LDP vice president Taku Yamasaki has admitted that he lied when he told reporters that former prime minister Junichiro Koizumi had expressed a willingness to make a third trip to North Korea. On December 7, Japanese-language news outlets quoted Yamasaki as saying that Koizumi had shown a willingness to make a third trip to North Korea, this time as a special envoy, to try to break the deadlock in Japan's relations with the DPRK. In correcting this earlier statement, Yamasaki said that "I suggested that Mr. Koizumi make a third visit to North Korea. He was just listening to me." According to Tokyo Shimbun, Koizumi later confirmed that Yamasaki had made up the story.

¶2. (C) On December 7, Isao Iijima, former secretary to former PM Koizumi, told the Embassy that Yamasaki's comment that Koizumi wished to visit the DPRK again had been a complete fabrication ("detarame"). According to Iijima, Koizumi did tell Yamasaki that he strongly wished to solve the nuclear and WMD issues at a June 6 dinner the two men had together. However, Iijima denied that Koizumi ever said he wanted to visit North Korea again. Iijima said that Yamasaki made the false statement because he himself wanted to visit Pyongyang as Koizumi's representative in order to gain the political limelight.

SCHIEFFER